THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) There is no increase in the death rate of children in the country. The Child (0-4) Mortality Rate (CMR) for the latest available three years as per the Sample Registration Survey (SRS), Registrar General of India (RGI) is as under:

Year	CMR
1996	23.9
1997	23.1
1998	22.5

Under the RCH Programme, immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases, facilities for appropriate management of acute respiratory infections, Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) for management of diarrhoeal diseases; and essential newborn care services are provided. Promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding practices, and prophylaxis against Vitamin-A and Iron-deficiencies are also being provided to improve the nutritional status of children.

Schemes have been launched in weaker districts to improve the access of the people to Reproductive and Outreach Scheme, RCH Camps, Dai Training and Border District Cluster Strategy Project which have been undertaken to effect further reduction in child mortality.

Working of NGOs in health programmes

1516. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Non-Governmental Organisations engaged in implementation of health programmes in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of the amount provided by Government to each organisation during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether these organizations submitted their accounts to the concerned authorities;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that there are complaints of misuse of funds by some of these NGOs; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government to check the malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Spread of mysterious disease in Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal

1517. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:
PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mysterious disease spread over some parts of the country especially in Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal causing deaths of some people has since been diagnosed by Doctors and Scientists by coordination between States and Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the casualties; and

(c) the assistance including expertise provided to affected States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir. Recently there was an outbreak of acute febrile illness with haemophysis (blood in sputum) in Hatkoti village of Shimla district which has been confirmed by National Institute of Communicable Diseases as pneumonic plague.

(b) From 4th February till 14th March, 2002 out of the sixteen